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Demonetized Currency Worth 1.38 Crore Intercepted in Kazipet; 8 Held, Inter-State Racket Suspected

Munsif Bureau
Sircilla, Sep. 18:

Kazipet : In a major breakthrough against illegal currency circulation networks, the Kazipet police, in coordination with the local Task Force, intercepted a vehicle and seized banned currency notes totaling ₹1,38,50,000.

Acting on credible intelligence under the directive of Police Commissioner N. Swetha, IPS, a special enforcement team led by Kazipet ACP P. Prashanth Reddy and Inspector J. Shyam Sunder intercepted the car during a vehicular check within the Kazipet limits.



The three occupants were taken into custody after failing to account for the substantial stash of scrapped 2016 banknotes concealed in bundles inside the vehicle; officers also impounded the car, 10 mobile phones used for operational logis-

tics, and ₹6,000 in valid currency. Preliminary investigations suggest the consignment was routed via Kazipet for off-market liquidation across commercial centers in Warangal, Hyderabad, and Chennai, prompting ongoing man-

hunts for an absconding Chennai-based syndicate operative, M. S. Riyaz, currently believed to be operating out of Hyderabad, as police register a case to trace the original source and intended recipients of the demonetized cache.

Re-survey of Land in Survey No. 325 Continues for Third Day in Gajwel

Munsif News Bureau
Peddapalli, Sept 18:

Following the directions of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, officials from the Revenue and Survey Departments have formed three special teams to conduct the re-survey.

The teams are carrying out a detailed examination of the boundaries of the concerned land and its present ground-level status.

Using modern satellite mapping technology, officials are identifying on the ground the boundaries of Pandavula Cheruvu, the surrounding hill areas, wa-

terways and other important locations.

During the re-survey, officials are comparing old records, the current ground situation and satellite-generated maps in an effort to determine the actual boundaries of the land. Particular attention is being paid to identifying any discrepancies between the details recorded in government documents and the actual condition of the land on the ground.

Meanwhile, people from Shivari Venkatapur village have expressed their views regarding the issue of the merger/inclusion of 113 acres of land, demanding

justice on the basis of old government records.

Local residents said that before any final decision is taken regarding the land, all historical records and relevant documents should be thoroughly examined, and the boundaries and rights over the land should be determined according to the records. After the Revenue and Survey officials compile the findings of the ongoing re-survey, further action will be initiated on that basis.

According to officials, notices are likely to be issued soon to the concerned farmers and landowners based on the survey report.

Through these notices, the concerned individuals may be asked to submit land-related documents, records and other necessary details. Further action will then be taken on the basis of the available records and the findings of the re-survey. Officials are currently preparing a comprehensive report by combining satellite mapping, ground measurements and old revenue records. Following completion of this process, further clarity is expected regarding the boundaries, ownership and other related matters concerning the land in Survey No. 325.

Major Road Accident Between RTC Bus and Tipper in Nagarkurnool

Munsif News Bureau
Mulugu, Sept 18:

Nagarkurnool: A major road accident involving an RTC bus and a sand-laden tipper truck occurred during the early hours of this morning.

According to reports, a bus belonging to the Tandur Depot and a tipper loaded with sand collided in front of the RTC Bus Depot in Nagarkurnool, at a spot where a bridge had recently been constructed.

No casualties have been reported so far. However, both the RTC bus and the tipper



sustained extensive damage in the collision.

Police reached the spot, registered a case and began

an investigation. The bus involved in the accident is reportedly from the Tandur Depot.

Tragic Incident in Kalwakurthy: Youth Dies of Electric Shock at Ganesh Mandap

NSS
Kothagudem, Sept 18:

A Ganesh mandap had been set up near Maisamma Gudi in the Gandhi Nagar locality of Kalwakurthy town. Arvind, 23, a resident of Tirimal, had reportedly slept inside the mandap at night. As there was heavy rainfall during the night, Arvind attempted to remove an arch-like structure inside the mandap. During the process, he suffered an electric shock. He was immediately taken to CBM Hospital, where doctors

advised that he be shifted to Hyderabad for further treatment. However, he reportedly died while being taken to Hyderabad. It is reported that Arvind was the only son and sole breadwinner of his family, and that his parents depended entirely on him for their livelihood. His untimely death has left the family devastated.

Another youth also reportedly suffered an electric shock during the incident, but escaped serious injury as the shock was brief.

The incident has raised

concerns over alleged negligence and lack of responsibility on the part of electricity officials. Critics allege that officials are more focused on collecting electricity bills and recovering outstanding payments than on ensuring the safety and proper maintenance of electrical infrastructure. The authorities concerned have been urged to make officials and employees responsible for electrical safety more accountable and ensure that they discharge their duties properly.

Man Sentenced to 2 Years in Jail and 20,000 Fine for Stalking Minor

Munsif Bureau
Medak :, Sept.19:

District SP D. V. Srinivas Rao, IPS, said that a Special POC SO Court has sentenced a man named Rahul to two years' imprisonment and a fine of ₹20,000 in a POC SO case involving the stalking and threatening of a 17-year-old minor girl.

According to the police, the accused followed the minor girl and threatened to commit suicide if she did not speak to him. He also used a photograph

taken with the minor girl as his WhatsApp status and display picture, improperly describing her as "my wife." Due to the continuous harassment, the girl suffered mental distress.

The Medak Town Police registered the case in October 2022, collected evidence and filed a charge sheet.

Following the presentation of strong evidence and effective prosecution by the government lawyer, Special POC SO Court Judge R. M. Subhawali found the accused guilty and sentenced him.



Prof. Islamuddin Mujahid felicitates the Editor-in-Chief Mohammed Abdul Jaleel with a shawl on the occasion of the relaunch of Munsif English Daily, and conveys his congratulations and best wishes.

Collector's Intervention Helps Elderly Man Return Home with Son

Munsif News Bureau
Kagaznagar:, Sept.16 :

Kagaznagar, September 19, 2026 (Munsif News Bureau): District Collector K. Hariitha extended immediate assistance to Mallaiah, an elderly resident of Bodepalli village, Kagaznagar Mandal, who approached the Integrated District Collectorate on September 18, stating that his son was not taking care of him. Responding promptly, the Collector personally met Mallaiah, enquired about his situation and directed officials to ensure his safe-



ty and provide necessary support and accommodation.

Following the Collector's intervention, Mallaiah's son

came forward and assured the authorities that he would take full responsibility for his father's care. The Collector counselled him on the importance of supporting and caring for parents during their old age. The son subsequently took his father home. Mallaiah expressed happiness over being reunited with his family and thanked the Collector and district administration for their support. Collector K. Hariitha said that elderly persons deserve love, dignity, security and care from their families and urged everyone to treat senior citizens with humanity and respect.

High drama at Janwada farmhouse as Congress delegation inspects site

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad :, Sept.19:

Tensions ran high at Janwada in Ranga Reddy district after Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) workers attempted to block a delegation of Congress leaders visiting the disputed Janwada farmhouse. Police stepped in to disperse the protesters, clearing the path for the bus carrying senior leaders, including MP Anil Kumar Yadav and MLC Balmuri Venkat.

Addressing reporters during the inspection visit, Nagarkurnool MP Mallu Ravi alleged that the farmhouse was constructed without valid permissions on a natural water channel (nala). He questioned the legitimacy of the structure, stating that legal ownership of the property remains unclear.

Bhuvanagiri MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy claimed the land originally belonged to Satyam Computers founder B. Ramalinga Raju and had been attached under the provisions of GO 111. Questioning how such a massive structure was allowed in the catchment zone, he assured that all violations would be thoroughly investigated and formally escalated to HYDRA (Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Monitoring).

Free police job coaching for Nirmal youth from Sept 28

Munsif News Bureau
Nizamabad, Sept 18:

Nirmal, Sep. 19 (Munsif Bureau): The Nirmal district police, with the support of District Collector Bhavesh Mishra, IAS, will launch a free pre-recruitment training programme for unemployed youth aspiring to join the police department.

District Superintendent of Police Dr G. Janaki Sharmila, IPS, said the training classes would commence in Nirmal from September 28. The programme is intended for candidates who have applied for police recruitment posts, including Police Constable and Sub-Inspector (SI) positions. The training will cover subjects relevant to competitive examinations, the examination



pattern and other aspects of preparation. Candidates will also be provided guidance to help them prepare systematically for the recruitment examinations. Interested candidates have been asked to approach the SHO of their respective police station with their biodata and register for the programme. They can also

obtain details about the training and admission process from the concerned police station.

The classes will be conducted from 10 am to 5 pm. Dr Janaki Sharmila appealed to police job aspirants in the district to make use of the free coaching facility and undergo the training with discipline and dedication.

All-Party Leaders Organise Suryapet Bandh Demanding Bullet Train Corridor and Railway Station

Munsif News Bureau
Rajampet, Sept 18:

Suryapet: Following the bandh call given by the all-party committee demanding the establishment of a bullet train and railway corridor station parallel to National Highway 65 (NH-65) in Suryapet district headquarters, the Telangana Youth Association and all-party leaders organised a bandh on Saturday.

Government-sector banks, shopping malls, corporate offices and shops remained closed across the district headquarters.

At the district headquarters, former minister and Suryapet MLA Jagadish Reddy, along with all-party leaders, participated in a large rally.

Speaking on the occasion, Telangana Youth Association State General Secretary Ananthula Madhu said the first alignment should be retained and that the bullet train corridor and station should be established through Suryapet.

Fostering Moral Values and Healthy Habits in Children is the Need of the Hour: District

Munsif Bureau
Warangal, Sept 18:

Adilabad, September 19 (Munsif News Bureau): Inculcating discipline, good character, and healthy habits in students right from childhood is the need of the hour. Moral values, a healthy lifestyle, and quality education lay the foundation for a bright future.

These views were expressed by Adilabad District Collector Rajarshi Shah while addressing a gathering at a government school program in Talamadugu. On Saturday, the District



Collector attended the event held at the PM SHRI Zilla Parishad High School in Talamadugu mandal center as the chief guest. Organised under the aegis of the Women and Child

Welfare Department, the program featured the 'Arogya Pathashala-Arogya Jathara' and the 9th 'Poshan Maah' celebrations. Collector Rajarshi Shah formally inaugurated

Revanth seeks public suggestions for name of Warangal Airport

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 19:

Hyderabad, Sept.19 (NSS): Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday appealed to people through 'X' to suggest a name for the proposed Warangal Airport.

The Chief Minister said the long-pending dream of having an airport in Warangal was be-

coming a reality due to the efforts of the Praja Palana government.

He alleged that BRS leaders had spent a decade focusing on family interests and luxurious farmhouses instead of making efforts to secure an airport for Warangal.

Revanth Reddy said the State government had allocated Rs.295 crore for land acquisition and ac-

quired the required land before handing it over to the Airports Authority of India (AAI), thereby giving concrete shape to the long-pending project.

Describing the airport as more than an aviation facility, he said it would open new opportunities for industries, tourism, education, employment and investments.

from September 21, 2026, to September 23, 2026.

The medical screening under Stage No. 1 will include various tests and examinations and will be conducted daily from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A facility will be provided for 120 Haj pilgrims per day.

In this regard, a delegation of the Nizamabad Haj Society, comprising Maulana Sheikh Ismail Arifi, President;

Maulana Syed Samiullah, Vice President; Mohammed Naseeruddin, General Secretary; Wasim Ahmed Khan, Treasurer; Abud Bin Saeed, Kaleem, Mubashir, Abdullah, Mohammed Rayan Ahmed, and others, met the hospital superintendent and requested that the schedule for the medical tests be finalized.

On the occasion, the Haj Society felicitated

Superintendent Dr. Ramulu, presenting him with a shawl and bouquet. The Haj Society assured the superintendent of its full cooperation and said that, as in previous years, it would arrange chairs, drinking water and other necessary facilities at its own expense.

The Nizamabad Haj Society has appealed to Haj pilgrims not to pay any money to any individual under any pretext.

TASK, Dell Technologies join hands to skill 5,500 Telangana youth

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept. 19:

With the objective of preparing Telangana’s youth for emerging technologies and connecting skills with meaningful employment opportunities, the Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK) and Dell Technologies have joined hands to implement the ‘uDaan’ programme in the State.

The MoU was formalised at a meeting held in the Secretariat on Saturday under the leadership of Minister for

IT and Industries D. Sridhar Babu, with the participation of senior government officials, TASK leadership, Dell Technologies and programme partners.

Under the uDaan programme, a total of 5,500 students will undergo a structured three-month training programme across 25 centres in Telangana.

The initiative will focus on future-ready areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing, Electronics Manufacturing, Emerging Technologies and Digital

Skills, along with industry exposure and employability capabilities.

Special emphasis will also be placed on extending these opportunities to students and youth from rural areas, enabling wider access to industry-relevant technology skills.

The vision of uDaan goes beyond training.

The programme aims to create a comprehensive pathway in education, skilling, industry exposure, employment, apprenticeship and entrepreneurship.

The objective is to enable

students to acquire industry-relevant skills while they are still pursuing their education, rather than waiting until graduation to begin preparing for employment.

By combining technical skills, industry exposure and job-readiness, the programme seeks to provide pathways towards employment, apprenticeships and entrepreneurship.

Training under the programme will be based on a curriculum developed by IIT Delhi, with technology support from Dell Technologies.



Minister for IT and Industries Duddilla Sridhar Babu has directed officials to complete all works related to the Godavari Pushkaralu-2027 by April next year and asked various departments to work in coordination under a special action plan.

MLA Danam Nagender's disqualification is a victory of constitution: Kishan Reddy

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 18

Hyderabad, Sept.19 (NSS): Union Minister Kishan Reddy on Saturday said that the verdict on MLA Danam Nagender’s disqualification was a victory for the Constitution. He said that the true colours of the Congress and BRS parties, which engage in the politics of defection, had been exposed.

Reddy advised these parties to desist from brazenly violating the law, disrespecting parliamentary enactments, and completely misusing them for their own political ends. He noted that the people



of Telangana and society at large were expressing happiness over the court’s verdict regarding the issue of party defections.

He expressed concern that, for many years, it had become a common practice for parties to induce leaders to switch sides, disregarding the

public mandate and ignoring the will of the people. He recalled that in the past, former CM Y.S. Rajasekhra Reddy of the Congress party encouraged such defections in the then-united Andhra Pradesh and added that when the BRS came to power, former CM KCR continued the same practice in violation of the law. He criticized the fact that former Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy, who had won on a Congress ticket, was inducted into the BRS party and made a minister without even resigning from her MLA post and noted that the Congress party was now following in those same

Osman Al Hajri Seeks Sale Deeds for Eligible Families Under GO 118

Karwan Land and Ownership Issues Raised Before Revenue Minister

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept.18

Osman Bin Mohammed Al Hajri, in-charge of Karwan Assembly Constituency, submitted a representation to Telangana Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, seeking early resolution of land, registration and ownership-related issues faced by residents of the constituency.

Al Hajri met the Minister during a programme at Saroor Nagar Indoor Stadium and drew his attention to difficulties being



faced by residents under Government Order (GO) 118. He urged the government to ensure that all eligible beneficiaries in Karwan are covered under the proposed reforms and are issued sale deeds conferring complete ownership rights.

He also sought priority

disposal of pending registration and ownership cases, particularly those involving families who had purchased plots with their own resources but were unable to secure proper legal documents due to procedural or administrative issues.

Al Hajri further requested

that eligible beneficiaries who had not applied earlier under GO 118 be given another opportunity to submit applications.

Addressing the programme, Srinivas Reddy said shortcomings in GO 118 were being rectified and assured that eligible beneficiaries would be provided sale deeds with full ownership rights. He said officials had been directed to resolve genuine land and registration-related issues on priority.

Ministers Mohammed Azharuddin and Ponnamp Prabhakar, Madhu Yaskhi Goud, MLA Malreddy Ranga Reddy, Shaikh Akbar and Ranga Reddy District Collector Narayan Reddy were among those present.

Telangana gears up for Kharif paddy procurement, expects 65 LMT arrivals

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 19:

The Telangana Civil Supplies department has activated its statewide procurement arrangements for the Kharif 2026-27 season, anticipating paddy arrivals of around 65 lakh metric tonnes (LMT).

To ensure smooth operations from the first week of October, the department is implementing a comprehensive SHT (Storage, Hamali and Transport) strategy. The three-pronged approach is aimed at plugging supply-chain gaps, ensuring timely lifting of paddy and

preventing logistical delays for farmers.

As part of the preparations, Civil Supplies Commissioner M. Stephen Raveendra conducted district-wise review meetings at the department’s head office to assess storage preparedness and other arrangements at the ground level.

Telangana State Warehousing Corporation (TGSWC) Managing Director Korra Lakshmi participated in the review meetings and assessed warehousing and logistics requirements. District Civil Supplies Officers (DCSOs)

and District Managers (DMs) presented updated field-level data and highlighted infrastructural bottlenecks requiring immediate attention. A key focus of the review was the expansion and clearance of storage facilities across the State. The department is mobilising additional storage capacity to ensure that the anticipated 65 LMT of paddy can be accommodated without any last-minute shortage of storage space. Officials have been directed to complete the necessary arrangements well ahead of the commencement of procurement operations. (NSS)

SPECIAL RE-ADMISSION TO BACKLOG UG STUDENTS

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 19

The several representations received from the students who have backlog papers in the undergraduate 3YDC (Old Batches). The Dr.B.R. Ambedkar Open University permitted a special Re-Admission opportunity for eligible students of old batches to complete their pending backlogs by paying the requisite prescribed fee within the stipulated period. The students belonging to 1990 to 2014 batches, who could not completed their course are directly to approach the Director (Learner Support Services) at University Head quarters.

Bandi Sanjay Inaugurated 20th Rozgar Mela

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept, 19

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Bandi Sanjay Kumar, on Saturday inaugurated the 20th Rozgar Mela held at Dr. MCR HRD Institute, Jubilee Hills, here. The event was organised by the Central Tax and Customs, Hyderabad Zone.A total of 221 candidates received appointment letters at the Rozgar Mela.

Addressing the program, Bandi Sanjay Kumar said that the 20th Rozgar Mela is being

organised at 45 locations across the country, where around 51,000 appointment letters are being distributed. He said that the initiative reflects Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi’s commitment to providing 10 lakh jobs in the Central Government.

On the occasion, Bandi Sanjay highlighted that more than 12.75 lakh appointment letters have been issued through the first 19 Rozgar Melas held across the country.

SCR bags awards at CII National Excellence in Energy Management

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept.19

South Central Railway (SCR) has bagged awards at the 27th CII National Excellence in Energy Management 2026. These awards were adjudged by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) to SCR for its sustained efforts towards promoting energy efficiency and adopting energy conservation measures across its estab-

lishments. The awards were presented at the CII Energy Efficiency Summit held at Hyderabad International Convention Centre (HICC) on Friday. Kacheguda Railway Station has been conferred with the ‘Excellent Energy Efficient Unit’ award, while LekhaBhavan, Central Hospital/Lallaguda and Zonal Railway Training Institute (ZRTI)/Moula Ali have been recognised as ‘Energy Efficient Units’.

TGSRTC trade union recognition polls on October 9: Ponnamp

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Sept.19:

The Praja Palana government is restoring the rights of Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) employees’ unions that were curtailed during the previous government, Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar said on Saturday.

He said recognition elections for trade unions in TGSRTC would be held on October 9, nearly a decade after the last elections conducted on July 19, 2016. Recalling the role played by RTC employees’ unions in the Telangana statehood movement, Ponnamp Prabhakar alleged that the previous government had sought to suppress the rights of the very unions that had fought for statehood. Instead of addressing their legitimate demands, the then government resorted to threats of dismissal, he alleged. The Minister further alleged that the previous government had created hurdles to holding democratic elections for recognition of trade unions and had prevented the process from being carried out in accordance with the Code of Discipline.

Kaleshwaram Zone-I DIG Amber Kishore Jha Inspects Asifabad Town Police

Munsif News Bureau
Kaghnaznagar, Sept, 19

Kaleshwaram Zone-I Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) Amber Kishore Jha, IPS, conducted an inspection of the Asifabad Town Police Station and the Wankidi Circle Inspector’s Office on Saturday. During the visit, the DIG reviewed the functioning of various sections, examined official records and assessed the progress of investigations in different cases.

District Superintendent of Police Nithika Pant, IPS, welcomed the DIG by presenting a bouquet.

The DIG later received a guard of honour from the police personnel. He also participated in a sapling plantation



programme along with police officials on the premises of the Circle Office.

Inspecting the police station premises, DIG Amber Kishore Jha directed officials to maintain a clean, hygienic and pleasant envi-

ronment at all times.

He instructed them to ensure the systematic and safe preservation of vehicles seized in connection with various cases and to maintain complete and accurate records relating to them.

The DIG emphasised the effective implementation of the 5S system at the police station and directed officials to maintain records, files and other documents in a systematic and organised manner.



Rajya Sabha Member Anil Kumar Yadav on Saturday inaugurated the IMS Canteen at Abids Circle in Hyderabad. The programme was attended by the Golconda Zonal Commissioner, Additional Commissioner (UCD), Deputy Commissioner (Cooperative), Fisheries Corporation Chairman and other dignitaries.Speaking on the occasion, Anil Kumar Yadav interacted with members of Women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and said the canteen had been established to provide safe, hygienic, nutritious and quality food to the public at affordable prices.

No compromise on food quality in welfare hostels: Adluri

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 19

Welfare Minister Adluri Lakshman Kumar has directed officials to accord the highest priority to the safety, health, nutrition and overall well-being of students staying in welfare hostels, residential

educational institutions and Ashram schools.

He stressed that there could be no compromise on the quality of food served to students and called for a robust and continuous monitoring mechanism to ensure strict implementation of prescribed

diet norms.

The Minister also directed officials to ensure regular inspections of hostels, residential institutions and Ashram schools under the supervision of District Collectors, with concerned departmental officials working in close

coordination with the district administration to identify and resolve issues promptly.

At a detailed review meeting held at the Dr B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat on Saturday, Adluri Lakshman Kumar reviewed the functioning of

welfare hostels under the SC Development department, the Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TGSWREIS), the Telangana Tribal Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TGTWREIS),

Ashram schools and hostels, besides residential facilities under the department for the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities.

The Minister directed officials to establish an effective monitoring mechanism to ascertain at the field level

whether every facility and service intended for students was actually reaching them. Inspections, he said, should not be confined to scrutiny of records but should also involve direct interaction with students to understand their concerns.



At a Glance

UP transfers 35 IPS officers

IANSLucknow, Sep. 19

The Uttar Pradesh government on Saturday transferred 35 IPS officers in a reshuffle covering officers from the 2014 to 2022 batches and police posts across the state.

Charu Nigam has been shifted from UP-112 in Lucknow to Commandant of the 47th PAC Battalion in Ghaziabad, while Shravan Kumar Singh moves from Kanpur Nagar to Gautam Buddh Nagar as Deputy Commissioner of Police.

Pramod Kumar has been posted as Superintendent of Police at Cyber Headquarters in Lucknow, and Ravi Shankar Nim moves to the 2nd Battalion of the Special Security Force in Gorakhpur. Sonam Kumar has been transferred to Prayagraj and Ravindra Kumar to Agra as DCPs.

Several 2022-batch officers, including Devesh Chaturvedi, Vivek Tiwari and Sumit Sudhakar Ramteke, have been reassigned too.

Nandigram Congress candidate sent to 14-day custody

IANSKolkata, Sep. 19

A district court in East Midnapore on Saturday denied bail to Congress candidate Milan Pradhan, arrested in a 2007 murder case linked to the Nandigram anti-land acquisition movement, and remanded him to 14 days’ judicial custody till October 3.

Pradhan, contesting the Nandigram Assembly bypoll, was arrested on Friday from Chandipur. He faces four old cases related to rioting, murder and criminal intimidation. He will be produced before the court again on Monday in connection with another case.

The Nandigram bypoll is scheduled for October 6, with counting on October 9. The Congress alleged political motives behind his arrest, while state leader Ajitesh Pandey questioned the timing of the action.

The deadline for withdrawal of nominations ended on Saturday, with Pradhan remaining in the contest.

Rahul Gandhi’s poha-jalebi post adds local flavour to Indore visit

IANSLIndore, Sep. 19

LoP Rahul Gandhi shows interest in Poha-Jalebi through social media post ahead of Indore ‘Chhatron Ki Goonj’ event Indore, Sep 19 (IANS) Congress leader Rahul Gandhi left Delhi for Indore on Saturday morning to address a large gathering of students, mostly college-goers, under the ongoing ‘Chhatron Ki Goonj’ series. However, ahead of the event, he showed interest in Poha-Jalebi through a social media post.

Party workers had worked extensively to complete the necessary organisational and security arrangements for the event. His programme is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. while he is expected to reach Indore by 1.30 pm.

According to official information, approximately two lakh participants have registered for the programme.

A day before the event, LoP Gandhi shared a post on his Instagram account asking, “What is Indore serving up—‘poha-jalebi’ or something else?”



“What is Indore serving up — ‘poha-jalebi’ or something else?”

– Rahul Gandhi

The light-hearted query quickly sparked conversations on social media. Since Instagram remains particularly popular among the youth, the post was shared exclusively on that platform.

Indore, widely regarded as the culinary capital of Madhya Pradesh, is famous across the country for its poha, a staple breakfast made from locally procured rice flakes.

By referring to the city’s food culture,

LoP Gandhi sought to connect with young audiences ahead of the ‘Chhatron Ki Goonj’ (Students’ Resonance) event.

There is also speculation that he may visit the popular ‘56 Dukan’ area. Five years ago, during an election rally in Indore, LoP Gandhi had visited the food street.

While no additional official engagements have been announced alongside the main student event, Congress

leaders have not ruled out the possibility of a brief visit to other locations after his arrival in the city.

Indore’s Sarafa Chaupati and ‘56 Dukan’ remain well-known landmarks for food lovers.

Four years ago, the Pravasi Bharatiya Sammelan was held in Indore and attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who described the city as one of the new era and specifically mentioned Sarafa Chaupati.

Indore’s poha has long enjoyed special recognition. Even late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, during a visit to the city, had praised the local preparation extensively.

The uniqueness of Indore’s poha lies in its distinctive steam-cooking method, which produces a light, fluffy texture with grains that remain separate.

LoP Gandhi’s visit focusses primarily on engaging with students through the ‘Chhatron Ki Goonj’ platform, while the culinary reference has added a local flavour to the build-up for the event.

Talent, skills of Indian youth have won global trust: PM Modi

IANSLNew Delhi, Sep. 19

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the talent and skills of India’s youth had earned global trust, with the world having high expectations from the country’s innovators, entrepreneurs and young people.

Modi made the remarks while distributing more than 51,000 appointment letters to newly recruited youth at the 20th Rozgar Mela. The programme was organised simultaneously at 45 locations across the country.

The new recruits will join various ministries and departments, including the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Department of Financial Services and Ministry of Defence.

Congratulating the appointees, Modi said they were joining government service at a time when India was working towards becoming a developed nation by 2047. He urged them to take decisions that strengthen the



goal of a developed and self-reliant India.

“Being the youth, you have an important responsibility towards fellow youngsters. Everyone can see that our youth’s talent and skills have won the world’s trust,” he said, adding that the world had high expectations from Indian innovators, entrepreneurs and the country’s youth power.

Referring to the recently concluded BRICS Summit, Modi said India was seeking greater participation from entrepreneurs, farmers, women and youth in the grouping. He also referred to the BRICS Connect and BRICS MSME Cooperation portals.

The Prime Minister said India had concluded free trade agreements with around 40 countries in recent years, which, he said, would create opportunities for new markets and partnerships for young Indians.

He also cited initiatives including the National Education Policy, Skill India Mission and Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, saying education and skills needed to evolve with changing economic conditions.

With the 20th Rozgar Mela, about 12.75 lakh youth will have received appointment letters through the initiative, according to the government.

CONGRESS ANNOUNCES ‘CHALO DELHI’ MARCH ON NOV 1 FOR SEPARATE OBC CENSUS COLUMN

IANSLNagpur, Sep. 19

Congress Legislature Party leader Vijay Wadettiwar on Saturday announced a phased agitation demanding a separate column for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the upcoming nationwide caste census.

The decision was taken at a Vidarbha-level meeting of OBC leaders, office-bearers and activists in Nagpur. Wadettiwar said an exclusive OBC column was necessary to accurately document the community’s population and address issues related to political representation and reservation.

“Our demand is explicit: there must be a caste-wise census with a dedicated column for OBCs,” Wadettiwar said, alleging that the government’s decisions on the census process had caused discontent among members of the community.

He said nearly 65 OBC organisations from across the country



had held a preliminary meeting in Delhi on September 13, following which a nationwide agitation programme was drawn up.

As part of the programme, taluka-level Satyagrahas will be held on October 2, coinciding with Gandhi Jayanti and Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti. District-level protest marches will follow on October 25, while a ‘Chalo Delhi’ rally has been scheduled for November 1. Wadettiwar said the details of the Delhi demonstration would be finalised in consultation with allied organisations.

The Congress leader also raised concerns

over funding for autonomous institutes such as Mahajyoti and BARTI in Maharashtra. He urged the state government to release funds in proportion to the population and ensure timely payment of pre-matric and post-matric scholarships.

On the ongoing debate over Maratha reservation, Wadettiwar said the OBC community opposed any reduction in its existing quota. He said any reservation granted to another group should not come from the OBC quota and warned that the community would protest if its constitutional rights were affected.

PUNJAB POLICE SEIZE 17 KG HEROIN, ARREST THREE

IANSLChandigarh, Sep. 19

Punjab Police’s Counter Intelligence (CI) Amritsar has arrested three alleged members of a cross-border narcotics smuggling module and seized 17 kg of heroin, Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said on Saturday.

The arrested persons were identified as Prince, Malkit Singh and Rajinder Singh, all residents of Kot Mit Singh in Amritsar. Police also seized the car allegedly used to transport the contraband.

According to Yadav, the



arrests followed specific intelligence that the trio had received a drone-dropped consignment and were expected to carry out a major drug deal near a flyover on the Amritsar-Tarn Taran road. Police set up a checkpoint and intercepted their car near a park, recovering 17 kg of heroin during the search.

The DGP said prelimi-

nary investigation indicated that the accused were allegedly working with cross-border smugglers to receive heroin consignments for further distribution.

With the latest seizure, CI Amritsar has recovered 54 kg of heroin in four days. Police had earlier seized 27 kg on September 16 and 10 kg on September 18.

Further investigation is underway to establish the alleged forward and backward linkages, identify other persons involved and dismantle the wider cross-border narcotics network.

Ayush Ministry explores AI

IANSLNew Delhi, Sep. 19

The Ayush Ministry is exploring artificial intelligence (AI) across healthcare, research, education and information services, with a focus on developing solutions for Ayurveda and other Ayush systems.

Through collaborations with IndiaAI and Digital India Bhashini, the ministry is working on AI-enabled tools including voice-based health records, disease-trend detection and personalised treatment support. Ayush Grid portals are available in 22 scheduled Indian languages.

Other initiatives include AI chatbots for citizens, researchers, students, medicinal-plant trade, yoga and investment.

CM VIJAY TO ATTEND DAVOS FORUM, PROMOTE TAMIL NADU INVESTMENTS

IANSLChennai Sep. 19



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay will attend the World Economic Forum’s annual meeting in Davos-Klosters, Switzerland, from January 18 to 22, 2027, as part of the State government’s efforts to attract global investments and promote in-

dustrial development. The visit follows an invitation from World Economic Forum officials.

Vijay’s participation will provide an opportunity to showcase Tamil Nadu’s industrial strengths, investment opportunities and emerging sectors to global business leaders and policymakers. The government is also expected to highlight the State’s manufacturing base, infrastructure, skilled workforce and plans for technology-driven and sustainable industries.

The five-day annual meeting brings togeth-

er political and business leaders, government representatives, international organisations, civil society, academics and media professionals. Discussions typically focus on the global economy, investment, industrial growth and international challenges.

During the visit, Vijay is expected to interact with investors and policymakers and present Tamil Nadu as a destination for new investments and partnerships. The State is seeking to attract investment in sectors with growth potential and employment-generation opportunities.

A senior government official said the Chief Minister’s participation could mark a change in Tamil Nadu’s approach to investment promotion, with greater political involvement in discussions on industrial policy and major investment proposals.

Tamil Nadu has previously been represented at Davos by its Industries Minister and senior officials. The Chief Minister’s planned participation comes as the State seeks to strengthen its international investment outreach.



At a Glance

India hands over additional relief supplies to Nepal

IANSS
Kathmandu, Sep. 19

India on Saturday handed over 11 tonnes of relief material to Nepal as the ninth Indian Air Force (IAF) flight carrying supplies reached Kathmandu, continuing support after devastating floods.

India’s Ambassador to Nepal, Naveen Srivastava, said the consignment included tents, medicines, sleeping bags and forensic supplies. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said hygiene kits were included and reiterated India’s commitment to Nepal’s recovery.

On Friday, Nepal Finance Minister Swarnim Wagle thanked India for its support in rescue and relief operations following the flash flood in Rasuwa.

Wagle met External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in New Delhi. The two sides discussed cooperation in investment, energy and connectivity. India has sent supplies to Nepal through nine flights since August 26.

Explosions heard in Riyadh

IANSS
Riyadh, Sep. 19

Explosions were heard in Riyadh early Saturday as residents received air-defence alerts on apps for alerts.

Saudi Arabia’s Directorate of Civil Defence later said on X that danger had passed in Riyadh and Al-Kharj, urging residents to follow official instructions and avoid gatherings or filming.

Earlier, the authority warned of a danger in Al-Kharj through the National Early Warning Platform.

The incident came two days after debris from an intercepted Houthi drone fell in Taif, killing a Yemeni resident and injuring a Saudi woman and a Pakistani resident, according to Saudi Civil Defence.

Meanwhile, Houthi-run al-Masirah TV reported Saudi airstrikes in Yemen. In Hajjah province, two strikes on Abs killed one person. Saudi authorities had no comment.

TRUMP RENEWS \$100,000 H-1B FEE, ORDERS SCRUTINY OF LAYOFFS

IANSS
Washington, Sep. 19

President Donald Trump has renewed a \$100,000 fee for certain H-1B visa applications and ordered closer scrutiny of employers that lay off American workers, according to a White House fact sheet and an executive order.

The measures combine the fee renewal with new checks on sponsoring employers’ employment practices. Agencies must consider recent and planned layoffs when assessing applications under the skilled-worker visa programme.

The executive order directs the secretaries of state, labour and homeland security to consider whether employers directly or indirectly carried out layoffs during the previous year, or plan future cuts affecting similarly situated US workers.

That requirement covers labour condition applications, petitions, visas and entry into the United States. The order does not prescribe automatic rejection solely because an employer has announced layoffs.

“I have determined that



continued efforts must be made to protect and prioritize the American workforce,” Trump said in the order.

The White House said a separate proclamation renewed the \$100,000 fee requirement first imposed on September 19, 2025. Its fact sheet described the charge as applying to certain H-1B applications. It did not specify the renewal’s duration or detail exemptions.

The order also sets a 30-day deadline for the labour secretary, acting through the Wage and Hour Division, to begin reviewing data from previously submitted labour condition applications. The review will determine whether further action against sponsoring

employers is warranted.

Those checks will be supported by wider co-ordination across federal agencies.

The departments of state, labour and homeland security must consult the commerce and education departments and the Small Business Administration when processing H-1B cases. Those agencies will supply relevant wage, employment, academic, industrial and other economic information to help assess compliance with statutory requirements.

The administration presented the measures as a response to alleged displacement of American workers and misuse of the programme by some employers and outsourc-

ing firms.

The order alleged that technology employers had collectively sought H-1B visas for hundreds of thousands of workers while laying off between 800,000 and 1.3 million American employees from 2022 through 2026.

It also alleged that some employers misrepresented job duties, working conditions or applicants’ qualifications. Neither the order nor the fact sheet included responses from employers or outsourcing firms to those allegations. The White House said registrations submitted by the largest information technology outsourcing firms had fallen 92 per cent since the 2025 proclamation took effect. It also reported a nearly 97 per cent decline in consular processing requests.

The latest measures follow changes outlined in the White House fact sheet, including a December 2025 Department of Homeland Security rule replacing random selection with a system weighted by wage level. According to the fact sheet, fiscal year 2027 marked its first use, and registrations dropped by almost 40 per cent.

North Korea rejects IAEA resolution, vows to maintain nuclear force

IANSS
Seoul, Sep. 19

North Korea has rejected a resolution adopted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) over its nuclear programme, with Kim Yo-jong, sister of leader Kim Jong-un, saying Pyongyang will maintain the credibility of its nuclear capabilities in response to what she described as nuclear threats from the United States and other countries.

The IAEA adopted the resolution at its 70th General Conference in Vienna on Thursday. It reaffirmed that North Korea cannot have the status of a nuclear-weapon state under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and called on Pyongyang to immediately halt all related nuclear activities. The resolution was adopted with 103 votes in favour, six against and 14 abstentions.

In a statement carried by the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), Kim accused the IAEA of targeting North Korea’s nuclear activities while ignoring what she called external nuclear threats to her country.

Kim also criticised the United States for its nuclear deployments and nuclear-sharing arrangements in Europe, its extended-de-



terrence commitments involving South Korea and Japan, and plans to provide nuclear submarine technology to South Korea. She described the IAEA’s approach as evidence of what she called “double standards and bias”.

Kim said North Korea would not surrender what it considers its sovereignty and right to security to the United States or Western countries. She added that ensuring the credibility of the country’s nuclear force remained a key national-security priority.

Her statement came two days after she described North Korea’s nuclear-weapon-state status as “absolute” and said it could not be reversed.

North Korea’s Foreign Ministry also rejected the IAEA resolution, calling it the product of “hostile

forces”. A ministry spokesperson said the country’s nuclear status did not depend on recognition by the United States, Western countries or the IAEA, and was instead based on its nuclear deterrent and state law.

The ministry said Pyongyang would continue to defend its sovereignty and national interests and deter external challenges through what it described as overwhelming force.

The latest statements underscore the continuing dispute between North Korea and the international nuclear non-proliferation system over Pyongyang’s nuclear weapons programme. The IAEA has repeatedly called for North Korea to comply with its NPT obligations and abandon its nuclear weapons programme.

EU gives Ukraine €3.3 billion Euro for defence needs

IANSS
Kyiv, Sep. 19

Ukraine has received a 3.3-billion-euro tranche from the European Union to finance defence needs, including the purchase of missiles and drones, Ukrainian Prime Minister Sergii Korytskiy said on Friday.

The funds were disbursed under the Ukraine Support Loan mechanism, which envisages up to 45 billion euros in assistance to Ukraine in 2026, including defence and budgetary support. The EU finalised a 90-billion-euro support loan for Ukraine in April, covering assistance for 2026 and 2027.

Meanwhile, Russia’s Foreign Ministry said it had summoned Britain’s charge d’affaires in Moscow, Danae Dholakia, over London’s increased arms supplies to Ukraine. The ministry said Britain’s policy was aimed at prolonging and escalating the conflict and warned that Moscow reserved the right to take retaliatory measures.



The ministry also said military facilities in Ukraine used to launch attacks against Russia would be considered legitimate targets. London had authorised MBDA to release classified information on British components of SCALP missiles to help Kyiv assemble the weapons, it said.

Russia’s Defence Ministry separately said its forces had conducted two and five group strikes over the past week against Ukrainian defence plants, logistics hubs, energy and transport infrastructure. It also claimed Russian forces had seized 10 settlements.

According to the ministry, targets included defence, metallurgical, motor and electronic enterprises, military logistics centres, fuel and energy facilities, rail and road infrastructure, drone workshops, ammunition and fuel depots, ports and deployment areas.

The ministry also said 12 Ukrainian dry cargo ships, two ferries, a tanker and a tugboat were hit. It said Russian air defences had shot down 44 guided bombs, eight HIMARS rockets, two Neptune missiles and 5,706 Ukrainian drones during the week.

Houthis report 300 Saudi air-strikes across Yemen this week

IANSS
Sanaa Sep. 19

Yemen’s Houthi group has claimed that Saudi warplanes carried out 26 airstrikes on the southwestern province of Taiz over the past 24 hours, taking the reported number of Saudi strikes across Yemen this week to 300.

Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Sarea said in a statement on X on Friday that Saudi F-15 fighter jets

conducted the strikes on Taiz after taking off from Khamis Mushait Air Base in southwestern Saudi Arabia.

Sarea said the reported 300 strikes across nine Yemeni provinces involved F-15 and Typhoon fighter jets operating from the Khamis Mushait and King Fahd air bases, Xinhua News Agency reported. Saudi authorities had no immediate comment.

The reported air-

strikes came as heavy fighting continued around the Kahbub mountain range in southern Lahj province, near the strategic Bab al-Mandab Strait. Clashes were also reported in Taiz and oil-rich Marib province.

Yemen’s conflict began in late 2014 after the Houthis seized Sanaa and large parts of northern Yemen. A Saudi-led coalition intervened in March 2015 in support

of the internationally recognised Yemeni government.

Meanwhile, explosions were heard in Riyadh Saturday, prompting local residents to receive air-defence alerts. Saudi Arabia’s Directorate of Civil Defence later said on X that the danger had passed in Riyadh and Al-Kharj, urging residents to follow official instructions and avoid gatherings or filming.



Viksit Bharat Run 2026 in Reykjavik brought together the Indian community and Friends of India in Iceland to celebrate fitness, unity and community spirit. Photo: X

Iran says essential goods supply remains secure despite 'enemies' propaganda

IANSS
Tehran, Sep. 19

Iran has no concerns over the supply of essential goods despite what Deputy Interior Minister for Political Affairs Ali Zeinivand described as “enemies’ propaganda”, according to semi-official Fars news agency.

Zeinivand, who is also the spokesperson for Iran’s Interior Ministry, said at a press conference in Tehran on Saturday that the country was receiving large volumes of essential-goods imports.

He said the high volume of imports had created a shortage of storage facilities and called on the private sector to help address the issue.

“Iran’s people should not be concerned about the supply of essential goods and impacted by the enemies’ false propaganda. We are working optimally in this area,” Zeinivand said.

He acknowledged, however, that domestic product prices had increased, adding that Iranian authorities were taking measures to address

the issue, Xinhua News Agency reported.

The remarks came amid heightened US economic pressure on Iran. US President Donald Trump announced last month what he called “the most crushing economic operation ever taken” against countries providing a lifeline to Iran. He described the move as “Economic Warfare and Isolation on an unprecedented scale”.

Meanwhile, Iran’s Supreme National Security Council Secretary Mohse

Rezaei said Tuesday that Tehran would not negotiate with Washington unless its conditions were met.

Rezaei was responding to Trump’s claim that Iran wanted to reach a deal “quickly and badly” and that Washington could resume negotiations with Tehran.

“Don’t get distracted by the US president’s mixed signals -- from ‘no negotiations’ to ‘we’re ready to talk,’” Rezaei said in a post on X. “No talks until Iran’s conditions are met. Period!”

BANGLADESH EDUCATION SYSTEM FACES LEARNING, FUNDING CRISIS

IANSS
Dhaka, Sep. 19

Bangladesh’s education system is struggling with poor learning outcomes, underfunding, weak teaching and politicisation, with these problems collectively limiting the country’s ability to build human capability, according to an editorial in The Daily Star.

The report cited the World Bank’s 2024 estimate that 51 per cent of Bangladeshi children cannot read and under-

stand an age-appropriate text by the end of primary school, despite near-universal school enrolment.

It said the crisis was reflected in exam cheating, a curriculum centred on memorisation rather than critical thinking, weak technical training and politicised universities. These, it argued, were interconnected problems rather than isolated failures.

Public spending on education has remained around two per cent of GDP or less

for years, below the 4-6 per cent benchmark under UNESCO’s Education 2030 framework.

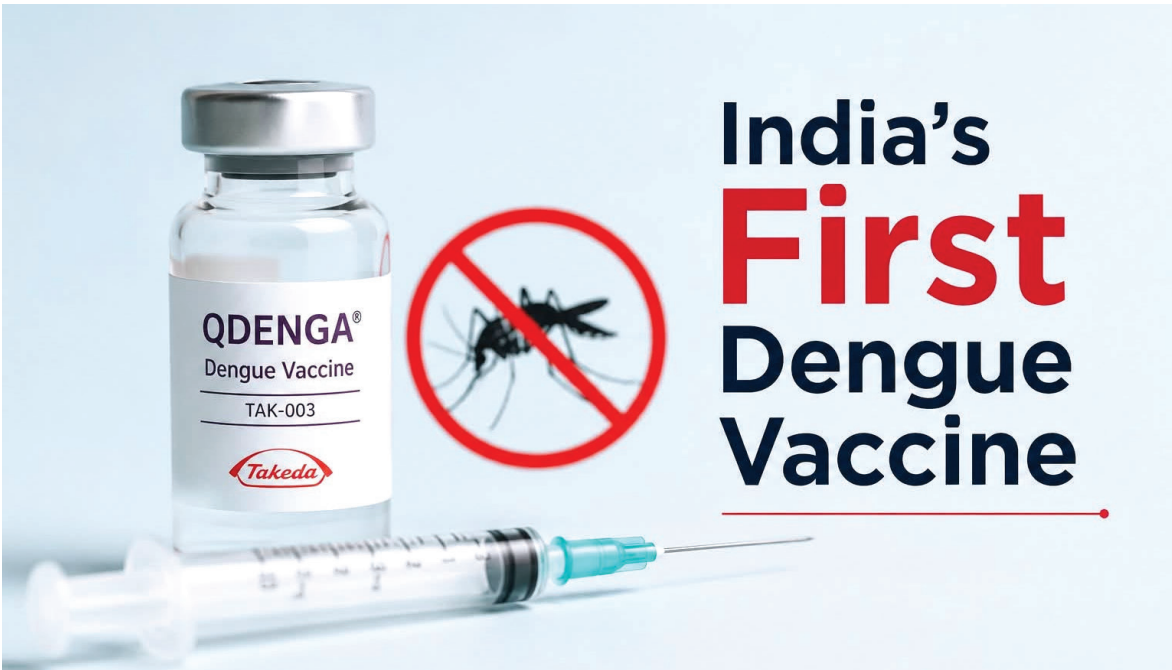
The editorial said increased funding alone would not solve problems related to governance, teaching or curriculum, but argued that quality education also required adequate investment in teachers, laboratories and universities.

It warned that shortcomings in education could translate into future skills shortages and con-

strain economic growth. A child struggling with basic learning today could enter the workforce with inadequate skills years later, while weak vocational education and university research could affect productivity and innovation.

The report stressed that human capability takes a generation to develop and said Bangladesh needed to improve both the quality and financing of education to meet its economic ambitions.

Qdenga Dengue Vaccine Set for India Launch in First Half of 2027



India is set to get its first approved dengue vaccine, Qdenga, in the first half of 2027, with Japan-based Takeda Pharmaceutical Company entering into an agreement with Dr Reddy’s Laboratories for its distribution in the country’s private market.

Under the agreement, Dr Reddy’s will be responsible for the domestic distribution of Qdenga after the completion of the required regulatory and local procedures. The vaccine has already received approval from India’s Central Drugs Standard Control

Organisation (CDSCO), paving the way for its commercial introduction.

Dr Reddy’s Global Generics CEO M.V. Ramana described the launch as a significant development for India’s healthcare sector, noting that Qdenga would provide an additional option for eligible people and support efforts to reduce the country’s dengue burden.

Takeda International Business Head Mahender Nayak said the partnership with Dr Reddy’s clears the way for the company’s first dengue vaccine launch in

India. Takeda said Qdenga has already been distributed in 43 countries, with more than 32 million doses supplied globally.

The companies are preparing to make the vaccine available to both children and adults through the private market. They said dengue cases in India have increased nearly 11-fold over the past two decades, underlining the growing public health challenge posed by the mosquito-borne disease.

Qdenga is designed to provide protection against all four dengue virus serotypes. The vaccine is indicated for people aged 4 to 40 years and is administered in two 0.5 ml doses, given three months apart. According to the companies, people who have previously had dengue can receive the vaccine without undergoing a pre-vaccination test.

The planned introduction of Qdenga marks a significant development in India’s dengue prevention efforts, although its availability in the private market will depend on the completion of the remaining regulatory and local requirements.

Can Rock Salt Replace Regular Table Salt? Experts Explain the Difference



With growing awareness about healthy eating, many people are replacing regular white salt with rock salt, or sendha namak, believing it may benefit heart health and blood pressure. However, experts say simply switching to rock salt does not necessarily lower resting heart rate or reduce the health risks associated with excessive salt intake.

Both regular table salt and rock salt primarily contain sodium chloride. Regular white salt generally contains around 97 to 99 per cent sodium chloride and is often iodised to help prevent iodine deficiency and related thyroid problems.

Rock salt occurs naturally and contains small amounts of minerals such as potassium, mag-

nesium, calcium and iron. However, experts point out that these minerals are present in such limited quantities that rock salt cannot be considered a significant therapeutic source of them.

Regardless of the type of salt consumed, the body primarily responds to its sodium content. Excess sodium can cause the body to retain water, increasing blood volume and putting additional pressure on blood vessels. Over time, high sodium intake can contribute to high blood pressure and place extra strain on the heart.

Therefore, replacing white salt with rock salt alone will not necessarily reduce heart rate. The key factor is the total amount of sodium consumed each day. Using more rock salt

simply because it is considered healthier could actually increase overall sodium intake and may also affect blood pressure and kidney health.

Another important consideration is iodine. Iodised table salt provides iodine, which is essential for the production of thyroid hormones. Iodine deficiency can affect thyroid function and may also lead to abnormal changes in heart rate. Experts therefore advise against completely eliminating iodised salt from the regular diet without a valid reason.

For better heart health, reducing overall salt consumption is more important than simply changing the type of salt. The World Health Organisation recommends limiting total daily salt intake to less

Pinit Brings Quick-Commerce Model to Saree Shopping in Hyderabad



Entrepreneur and saree industry veteran Sangeetha Rajesh on Friday launched Pinit, a Hyderabad-based mobile commerce startup introducing a quick-commerce model to saree shopping, with curated collections delivered to customers’ doorsteps in as little as 45 minutes.

The launch was inaugurated by actresses Lakshmi Manchu and Vithika Sheru at JRC Conventions & Trade Fairs, Film Nagar, Hyderabad.

To mark the launch, Pinit is organising a three-day Grand Saree Exhibition from September 18 to 20, showcasing around one lakh sarees across different fabrics, colours, designs and price ranges. The exhibition is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. with free entry.

Through the Pinit mobile application, customers can browse collections, select sarees they wish to see and book a delivery slot. A Pinit vehicle then arrives at the customer’s home with a trained stylist and curated selection.

The service aims to recreate a saree showroom experience at home. The vehicle carries mirrors and lighting, allowing customers to view, drape and compare sarees before making a purchase.

According to the company, collections can reach customers in approximately 45 minutes, subject to location and slot availability. Pinit operates through strategically positioned fulfilment points, with each doorstep team comprising a driver and stylist.

Its collection ranges from approximately ₹1,000 to ₹20,000, covering everyday sarees, festive wear, wedding collections, handlooms, designer sarees and regional Indian weaves.

Founder Sangeetha Rajesh has 16 years of experience in the saree and textile industry and is also the founder of Sangeetha’s Saree Emporium. She pioneered Facebook Live saree sales in 2015.

Her business has sold more than one million sarees, built a social media community of over eight lakh followers, conducted more than 190 exhibitions across India and developed a team of over 100 employees. Her recently opened 5,000-sq-ft Banjara Hills emporium

Gold, silver jump up to 3 pc over week amid softer crude oil prices

Gold and silver prices rose up to 3 per cent this week, supported by falling crude oil prices that eased concerns over energy-driven inflation.

On the MCX, October gold futures gained 0.84 per cent to Rs 1,54,263 per 10 grams on Friday, while December silver futures rose 0.16 per cent to Rs 2,42,000 per kg. According to the India Bullion and Jewellers Association, 24-carat gold rose over 1 per cent to Rs 1,53,727, while silver gained 3.48 per cent during the week.

Analysts said precious metals faced pressure early in the week due to higher US bond yields and expectations of tighter monetary policy. However, falling crude prices and easing concerns over supply disruptions supported the market.

The US Federal Reserve raised its policy rate by 25 basis points to 3.75-4 per cent, while officials signalled that further tightening could continue.

Silver outperformed gold amid expectations of a supply deficit for the sixth consecutive year. Experts said US interest rates, bond yields and geopolitical developments will remain key factors for precious metals in the coming days.

Experts said gold faces resistance around Rs 1,54,000–1,54,700 on the MCX, while Rs 1,50,000–1,50,700 may offer support in the near term.

India Faces Rising Health Burden from Secondhand Smoke

Over 3.25 lakh deaths linked to secondhand smoke in 2023 as 44.4 crore people remain exposed to tobacco fumes



Secondhand smoke is emerging as a major public health concern in India, with deaths linked to exposure to tobacco smoke from others rising by nearly 50 per cent between 1990 and 2023, according to a study published in The Lancet Public Health.

The study estimated that around 3.25 lakh people died in India in 2023 due to secondhand smoke exposure, compared with approximately 2.17 lakh deaths in 1990. India also recorded the world’s second-highest number of people exposed to secondhand smoke after China, with an estimated 44.4 crore people exposed to smoke from cigarettes, bidis, cigars and other tobacco products.

Globally, about 271 crore people were exposed to secondhand smoke in 2023, including nearly 76.7 crore children. Exposure can occur not only inside homes but also in workplaces, restaurants, public spaces and other areas where people smoke.

Interestingly, while the proportion of India’s population exposed to secondhand smoke has declined over the past three decades, the absolute number has increased due to population growth. The age-standardised exposure rate fell from 43.2 per cent in 1990 to 30.6 per cent in 2023, while the number of exposed people rose from around 37.5 crore to 44.4 crore.

Deaths linked to secondhand smoke increased among both men and women. Among women, such deaths rose from around 1.13 lakh in 1990 to 1.56 lakh in 2023, while among men they increased from about 1.04 lakh to 1.68 lakh during the same period.

Experts warn that toxic chemicals in tobacco smoke can damage the heart, blood vessels and respiratory system. Long-term exposure is associated with a higher risk of heart disease, stroke, chronic respiratory conditions and lung cancer. Children are particularly vulnerable as their lungs and immune systems are still developing, while pregnant women may also face health risks from exposure.

Health experts emphasise that preventing smoking around others is one of the most effective ways to reduce secondhand smoke exposure. Maintaining completely smoke-free homes and vehicles, particularly where children, pregnant women and elderly people are present, can help protect vulnerable groups.

They also stress the need for stronger enforcement of smoke-free public spaces, greater public awareness and wider access to smoking-cessation support. Reducing exposure to secondhand smoke, experts say, will require both individual responsibility and sustained public health measures.



Asian Games 2026 Open in Nagoya; Manu Bhaker and Pawan Sehrawat Lead India's Parade

Nagoya, Sep 19:

The 20th Asian Games officially got underway in Nagoya, Japan, on Saturday with a colourful opening ceremony, as athletes from across Asia gathered for the continental sporting extravaganza. The ceremony was held at the Paloma Mizuho Stadium, officially marking the beginning of the Aichi-Nagoya Games.

India's contingent was led by Olympic medalist Manu Bhaker and star kabaddi player Pawan Sehrawat, who carried the Tricolour during the athletes' parade. Sehrawat was

named the male flag-bearer at the last minute, replacing shot-putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor after a delay in receiving his official ceremonial kit.

The opening ceremony featured a colourful and high-tech presentation, setting the stage for the sporting action ahead. With the ceremony completed, Indian athletes will now turn their attention to the medal events as the country looks to build on its record performance at the 2023 Hangzhou Asian Games.

The Indian contingent is targeting another strong medal haul at the 2026

Games. According to the information released ahead of the competition, Indian athletes are competing across multiple sporting disciplines, with the Games scheduled to continue until October 4.

The build-up to the Games has, however, been marked by concerns over accommodation and logistical arrangements, including the absence of a traditional Games Village and difficulties related to transport and facilities. Despite these challenges, Indian athletes have begun their campaign with a focus on competition and medals. For Manu Bhaker,

the opening ceremony marks another significant milestone in her sporting career. She became the first athlete from independent India to win two medals at a single edition of the Olympic Games when she secured two medals at the Paris Olympics in 2024. Pawan Sehrawat, meanwhile, was part of India's gold-medal-winning men's kabaddi team at the previous Asian Games.

With the Tricolour proudly carried through the opening ceremony in Nagoya, Team India's medal campaign is now set to take centre stage at the 20th Asian Games.

Ramesh Powar, Ashish Winston Zaidi tipped to join junior men's selection committee

New Delhi, Sep 19:

Former India spinner Ramesh Powar and former Uttar Pradesh pacer Ashish Winston Zaidi are tipped to join the new BCCI junior selection committee.

Sources said Powar could become chief junior selector and West Zone representative, while Zaidi may represent the Central Zone. Powar has played two Tests and 31 ODIs for India, while Zaidi took 427 wickets in first-class and List A cricket.

The new panel will select age-group teams up to Under-22 and scout emerging talent.

The committee will also oversee junior tours, tournaments and talent scouting for future India teams.

Rachin Ravindra Injured, Doubtful for India Series

New Delhi, Sep 19:

New Zealand have suffered an injury setback ahead of their upcoming five-match T20I series against India, with young opener Rachin Ravindra doubtful for the tour after suffering a shoulder injury during a promotional shoot.

Ravindra was injured on Wednesday, September 16, while attempting to take a diving catch near the boundary during a promotional shoot in Auckland. The left-hander dived to his right while trying to complete the catch and landed on a safety mat. He immediately complained of pain and underwent scans, which revealed a dislocated right shoulder.

New Zealand performance manager Mike Sandle confirmed the injury and said the team was disappointed by the unfortunate incident. He said Ravindra's injury occurred while taking a catch during the shoot and added that the play-



er's recovery would be monitored closely. Sandle also said that commercial shoots are conducted with the consent of players and with safety precautions in place, but the team would review the arrangements to prevent similar incidents in the future.

Ravindra is currently undergoing rehabilitation at a New Zealand Cricket facility, but there is no clear timeline yet for his return. With the India series scheduled to begin in October, his availability remains uncertain.

India are scheduled to

tour New Zealand for a five-match T20I series, with the opening match set to be played at Hagley Oval on October 22. New Zealand are yet to announce their squad for the series and are expected to finalise the team in the third week of September.

Ravindra's absence could be a concern for New Zealand, given his record against India. However, his participation in the series will depend on his recovery from the shoulder injury and the medical assessment ahead of the squad announcement.

IPL 2027 Mini Auction Likely in December; BCCI Begins Preparations for Landmark 20th Season



New Delhi, Sep 19:

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is preparing to conduct the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2027 mini auction in the second week of December, with discussions on the schedule taking place following the conclusion of the league's key administrative elections.

The auction plans were discussed during the BCCI's 95th Annual General Meeting on Friday. The board is expected to consult the owners of all 10 franchises before finalising the auction date, with the official schedule likely to be announced soon.

The 2027 auction will be the final mini auction of the 2023-27 IPL cycle and will precede the

league's 20th season. The BCCI is also looking to make the landmark season a major celebration of two decades of the IPL.

The venue for the auction has not yet been finalised. The last three auctions were held overseas, including in Dubai and Abu Dhabi, and it remains to be seen whether the BCCI will continue with an international venue this time.

Preparations for the auction have gathered pace following the recent elections to the IPL Governing Council. Arun Dhimal was recently elected as IPL chairman, while Khairul Majumdar was elected as a member of the Governing Council.

The previous mini auction was held on December 16, although the subsequent IPL sea-

Among the top five highest-priced players at the previous mini auction were:

Cameron Green (Australia) — 25.20 crore, Kolkata Knight Riders
Matheesha Pathirana (Sri Lanka) — 18 crore, Kolkata Knight Riders
Kartik Sharma (India, uncapped) — 14.20 crore, Chennai Super Kings
Prashant Veer (India, uncapped) — 14.20 crore, Chennai Super Kings
Liam Livingstone (England) — 13 crore, Sunrisers Hyderabad



son faced scheduling disruptions due to assembly elections in four states. Several matches were also cancelled amid developments linked to the Pahalgal terror attack and Operation Sindoor.

Australian all-rounder Cameron Green emerged as the most expensive player at the previous mini auction after Kolkata Knight Riders acquired

him for ₹25.20 crore. The franchise also paid ₹18 crore for Sri Lankan pacer Matheesha Pathirana, the second-highest bid.

With the 20th IPL season approaching, franchises are expected to begin assessing their squads and identifying players they could target once the auction date and other details are officially confirmed.

School Games 2026: Nine Football Matches Decided at Gymkhana Grounds



Hyderabad, Sep 19:

The Phase-II Under-14 Boys football matches of School Games 2026 were held at Gymkhana Grounds, Secunderabad, on September 18. Nine matches were played, with Slate High School Abids, HPS Ramthapur, GBHHS Golconda, Focus School, TMRIES Asifnagar, DPS Secunderabad, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Good Faith School and Ocean High

School emerging victorious.

GBHHS Golconda recorded the biggest win, defeating IZM High School 3-0, while the remaining matches ended in 1-0 or 2-0 victories.

The matches witnessed competitive performances from the participating schools, with several teams securing narrow victories. The Phase-II fixtures are part of the ongoing School Games 2026 football competition for young players.

Axar Patel wins 'Impact Player of Series' award in India's 3-0 series win over Afghanistan



New Delhi, Sep 19:

Left-arm spin bowling all-rounder Axar Patel was named the 'Impact Player of the Series' following India's recent 3-0 T20I series triumph over Afghanistan at the Arun Jaitley Stadium, with head physio Kamlesh Jain handing over the medal in the dressing room.

Axar played a crucial role throughout the series by delivering tight spells and maintaining pressure while picking four wickets in three games, including a spell of 2-9 in three overs in the final game which India won by 127 runs. "Guys, congratulations on the series win. With regards to the impact player for the series, someone who does his work silently behind the scenes and also during the game when he has to bowl those crucial overs in the power play, as well as towards the end of the power play.

"He comes in, silently does his job, whether it's in the fielding in 30 yards or on the boundary line, gives his 100 percent commitment. Someone who echoes the team's motto of putting the team over self, one and only, Axar Patel," Jain said in a video shared by the BCCI on their social media accounts on Saturday.

Accepting the honour, Axar expressed pride in the collective effort shown by the team across all three matches and called on the group to carry the same momentum into their next assignment, which is the men's T20 event in the Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.

"We did pretty well in all three games. We implemented what we had discussed. Overall, as a team, I am very proud of this side and the past few series, the way it went, nothing can be changed. If we keep winning, the atmosphere will be automatic upwards.

"If we keep winning, we will move forward as a unit. In the next Asian Games, we will do the same. If we keep the atmosphere and environment as it is, I think we can do better. So keep it up and good luck," he said.

Head coach Gautam Gambhir, who isn't travelling to the Asian Games, kept his address brief and urged the players to put the series victory behind them and refocus on the continental event, where India are the defending champions. "Good luck to the guys for the Asian Games. The series is over, so switch on for the Asian Games. Good luck," he said.

Chopra: Selectors Have Decided Pant's ODI Future

New Delhi, Sep 19:

Former India cricketer Aakash Chopra believes the Indian selectors have made up their mind about Rishabh Pant's immediate future in white-ball cricket. Pant was left out of the ODI squad for the upcoming West Indies series despite being named captain of the Rest of India side for the Irani Cup.

Chopra highlighted the contrasting roles given to Pant across formats, saying India continue to consider him an important player in Test cricket,

while his position in the ODI setup appears to have changed. "Rishabh Pant is a very strange and very unique case. While he is playing Test cricket and is a very important member of the red-ball side, he was stripped of his vice-captaincy duties there as well. But in ODI cricket, without playing, he's been bid goodbye," Chopra told Jio Star.

"At the same time, he has been made the captain of the Rest of India, which also tells you that, with respect to red-ball cricket, they are very serious about

Rishabh playing a huge role in the longer format. But for white-ball cricket, as of now, I think this selection committee has made up its mind," he added.

Pant has played just one ODI in the past four years and was also dropped from the T20I team after the 2024 T20 World Cup. His omission comes as India begin preparations for the 2027 ODI World Cup, with Shubman Gill set to lead the side against the West Indies, while Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli are also part of the 15-member squad.

IPL breakout star Praful Hinge relies on 'one ball at a time' approach for India 'A'

New Delhi, Sep 19:

Praful Hinge shot to fame in IPL 2026 after taking three wickets in his opening over for Sunrisers Hyderabad against Rajasthan Royals. Ahead of his India A debut against Australia A in the red-ball series beginning September 22 in Puducherry, the right-arm pacer said he is focused on staying in the present.

"I just focus on what I have to do with the ball in hand. I focus on bowling one

ball at a time," Hinge told IANS. He said he enjoys the challenges of fast bowling and wants to give his best without worrying about the outcome.

Hinge has continued bowling since the IPL, representing Vidarbha in the Pro T20 League and playing at the BCCI Centre of Excellence. He credited former India pacer and SRH bowling coach Varun Aaron, along with CoE coaches Lakshminath Balaji and P Krishnakumar, for helping



him improve.

Hinge made his Ranji Trophy debut in 2024 and has taken 27 wickets in 10 first-class matches. He expects the afternoon heat in Puducherry to challenge the pacers but is confident of adapting quickly.



Man Dresses As Woman, Rides Scooty Across Delhi At Night To Test Safety: ‘Everyone Tried To Follow Me’

How safe is Delhi for women? A content creator based in the city decided to check the safety of women in the national capital after dark. He spent nearly two hours riding a scooty through the capital at night while dressed in a woman’s clothes to get a reality check himself and the result of his social experiment shook him to the core.

The creator, who goes by the name BeJaintle on Instagram, documented the experience in a video and posted it on his account. The clip began with him being seen dressing up as a woman, wearing a dress, makeup and a dupatta covering his head and face to conceal his identity. He then took a scooty to conduct the experiment.

Men Continued To Stare At Him Or Follow Him

What followed was an increasingly uncomfortable ride. He claimed that people repeatedly stared at him shortly after he left home.

Even while he stopped at a petrol pump to refuel the scooty, he said he continued to attract attention from men nearby.

During the ride, the creator also recorded an encounter involving two men whom he claimed initially stared at him before following his scooty and attempting to move closer. On another occasion, he said a man approached him while he was travelling through the city.

“It Is Not Safe For Girls To Go Out Alone At Night”

The situation became more unsettling when he encountered auto rickshaw drivers. He shared that two auto drivers moved their vehicles in front of him while he was riding. He alleged that one stopped after he noticed that his friends were recording, while another repeatedly drove towards him before leaving the area.

He decided to end the



experiment after it grew increasingly uneasy for him. He said, “This has become very scary. I think we should stop this.” Following this, he reflected, “In the last two hours, it has become so disgusting for me,” he said. “Cycle, bike, auto, car. Everyone has tried to follow me. It is not safe for girls to go out alone at night. Really, the lives of girls are very difficult.”

Internet Calls It A ‘Harsh Reality’

Since the clip was shared, it has garnered over 17 mil-

lion views, with thousands reacting and sharing about women’s experiences while navigating public spaces.

“That’s the harsh reality,” said a user.

Another wrote, “Being a girl is not easy to live in India.”

“Women face this EVERY SINGLE DAY!” remarked an individual.

“Mennnn???? R u watching this rn? And then they say girls play as victims,” someone else commented.

Man Left Baffled After Being Fired 2.5 Hours Into New Role Over 'Hygiene Issues'



After months of searching for work, getting a job can feel like a long-awaited new beginning. But for a man in the United States, that moment turned into a bizarre and deeply confusing experience when he was dismissed from his new position just two and a half hours into his first day. He shared that his employer cited “hygiene issues” as the reason.

The man later took to Reddit and in a post titled “I was let go from my new job after 2.5 hrs” shared his ordeal. He said that after being unemployed for around nine and a half months he was thrilled when a temp agency helped him secure a role that paid more than his previous job.

Determined to make a good first im-

pression, he showered nicely the night before, laid out a brand-new polo shirt and then stepped into his new workplace. The first few hours appeared to be going well. His supervisor showed him around the office, introduced him to the workplace and explained his responsibilities.

“I was very impressed,” he said. “They had a stocked kitchen and bathroom. Things I never had at any of my past jobs. She explained the job to me and around 30 mins later at 10:00 am an employee came in to work and took over training. Not long after that she came back and told me I could take an early lunch later, before 12:00pm.”

Woman Allegedly Tears Clothes During Train Ticket Check, Accuses TTE Of Harassment



A video reportedly capturing a tense confrontation between a woman passenger and a TTE on an express train has sparked a debate online. The woman allegedly tore her clothes during the dispute and accused the railway official of inappropriate behaviour after being asked to show her ticket.

According to claims accompanying the viral video, the confrontation began when the TTE approached the woman during a routine ticket inspection. She allegedly did not have a valid ticket and reportedly attempted to offer money instead. It was also claimed that she told the railway official that her brother worked for the Railways.

The disagreement reportedly intensified as the TTE continued asking questions about her ticket. During the exchange, the woman can allegedly be heard speaking to her brother over the phone.

The situation took another turn when the woman was allegedly seen pulling and tearing her own clothes while accusing the TTE of touching her inappropriately and attempting to molest her.

She also threatened to contact the emergency helpline. The TTE, meanwhile, had apparently been recording the confrontation on his mobile phone. When asked to identify herself, she reportedly gave her name as ‘Radhika Tiwari’.

The recording has since become central to the online discussion, with social media users pointing to the footage as a way of providing context to what happened during the ticket-checking dispute. However, a viral video alone does not establish the complete sequence of events or determine whether either party’s allegations are legally substantiated.

Founder Asks Gen Z Employees If They Want To Get Married, Their Response Sparks Debate

Marriage may no longer feel like an automatic life step for some young professionals, according to a recent conversation shared by founder Nitin Verma. He said he asked members of his team a simple question about marriage and was surprised by the response he received.

Verma said nearly 80 per cent of the Gen Z employees he spoke to said they did not want to get married. He also made it clear that this was a conversation within his office, not a formal survey. The discussion, he said, made him think about how younger people are looking at relationships and marriage differently.

Gen Z Employees Give A Different Answer On Marriage

Verma said he asked his team, “Do you want to get married?.” According to him, most of the employees answered “no”. He said the group included educated, working people in their twenties.

“This is my office, not a survey,” Verma wrote. He said the answer did not mean that these employees were against love or companionship. Instead, he felt many of them were unsure about taking on the responsibilities that come with marriage.

The reasons they gave, according to Verma, were also not mainly about relationships. Money, career uncertainty, personal priorities and what they had seen in their parents’ marriages were among the concerns he heard.

Financial Pressure Is Part Of The Discussion

Verma said young professionals today may already be dealing with rent, loans and uncertain jobs. Adding marriage to those responsibilities can feel like another long-term financial commitment.

He also pointed to what young people have seen at home. According to him, some have grown up watching their parents remain married even when they may not have been happy. “Their parents stayed. That is not the same as their parents being happy,” he wrote.



Verma also said women in his team appeared more hesitant about marriage than men. According to him, some women felt that marriage could still require them to make bigger personal and career-related sacrifices.

He suggested that these concerns are making some young women question whether marriage offers enough in return for what they may have to give up.

Verma Says Marriage Itself Is Changing

While the founder believes attitudes are changing, he does not think marriage is going away completely.

Telangana temples decorate Ganesha idols with currency notes worth Rs 2.90 crore

Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations took an extravagant turn in Telangana’s Palvancha, where two Lord Ganesha idols were decked out in currency notes worth a staggering Rs 2.90 crore.

Members of the Kapu community organised special prayers and decorated their Ganesh idol with currency notes worth Rs 1.40 crore. The unusual display attracted large crowds of devotees, who gathered to catch a glimpse of the idol covered in fresh notes.

At another location in Palvancha, youth organisation Team Ekadanta went a step further, adorning its Ganesh idol with currency notes worth Rs 1.50 crore.

The organisers said they wanted to celebrate the festival on a grand scale and pooled contributions from



local traders to arrange the decorations. Bankers also assisted by supplying fresh currency notes for the elaborate display, they said.

The two installations quickly became a major attraction in the area, with devotees turning up in large numbers to see the idols and their

eye-catching currency-note decorations.

With Rs 1.40 crore adorning one idol and another Rs 1.50 crore covering the second, the celebrations in Palvancha certainly gave the traditional festival a rather extravagant makeover.

Pregnant Doll With Detachable Baby Leaves Internet Shocked: ‘Something Like This Exists?’

A pregnant doll with a removable baby inside its belly has surprised viewers online. Made by US toy company Zuru, the set lets children recreate a birth scene by taking the baby out of the doll.

The unusual design was shown in an unboxing video shared by the Instagram account Xoxo Toyz. As the person opened the package and demonstrated how it worked, viewers got to see how the baby could be taken out of the doll.

The Doll Comes With A Baby Hidden Inside Its Belly

The toy is called ‘My Mini Baby Mom and Baby Surprise’. It has a large, rounded stomach



that makes the doll look pregnant. The baby can be removed from the belly, giving the appearance of a tiny birth scene.

In the clip, the baby is taken out of an amniotic bag before being dressed and placed in the doll’s arms. The doll’s stomach can then be closed again.

The video was captioned, “Unboxing Zuru My Mini Baby Mom

and Baby Surprise!” The toy’s design has led some viewers to question how suitable the concept is for children, while others have responded with jokes about the unusual play feature.

Social Media Users Question The Unusual Toy

The unboxing video drew a range of reactions, with some viewers saying the toy seemed strange or

unsuitable for young children. Others questioned the idea behind making a doll that could appear to give birth.

“I don’t think this is suitable for children,” one person commented. “Something like this exists?” another user asked.

Some viewers chose to make jokes about the set. “Father sold separately,” one comment read. “This looks like a man’s idea of delivering a kid!” another person wrote.

One user was more critical of the toy, saying, “It’s one of the weirdest, most unpleasant and unnecessary toys I’ve ever seen, and I think it can negatively affect children’s thinking,”

CEO’s Unusual Salary Offer To Job Seeker Goes Viral



A CEO’s unusual salary proposal to a prospective CTO has sparked debate online after he revealed an email from 2022 offering the candidate half his desired pay initially, with raises tied to the company hitting specific revenue targets.

Tyler Denk, co-founder and CEO of Beehiiv, recently revisited the hiring decision in a post on X, sharing the email he had sent to a prospective CTO when the company was still in its early stages.

According to Denk, the startup did not have enough money at the time to afford the compensation the candidate was seeking, prompting him to come up with an alternative arrangement.

“In 2022, we didn’t have the money to hire the best person for the CTO role,” Denk wrote while explaining the thinking behind the proposal. He said he suggested paying the candidate significantly less initially while creating a path that would eventu-

ally allow him to reach his preferred compensation.

The email, titled “Compensation proposal”, began with Denk acknowledging that the candidate deserved to be paid what he had asked for. However, he explained that offering the full amount immediately could put the young company under financial pressure.

“I want to pay you exactly what you want, you deserve it. But it would bankrupt the company which isn’t good for you or us. So what if we started you off at half of that?” the email stated.

Denk then proposed tying salary increases to the company’s monthly revenue. Under the arrangement, the employee would receive a raise once the company reached \$100,000 in monthly revenue, another increase at \$150,000, and a final bump at \$200,000. The final milestone was intended to bring the employee to his preferred compensation.